

braving the dangers of voyage. Hence, part of the education of a courtier would be a knowledge of these subjects. Elyot gives this opinion on the study of cosmography, "All be it there is none so good lernynge as the demonstration of cosmographie by materiall figures and instruments, havyng a good instructour.. . . I can not tell what more pleasure shulde happen to a gentil witte, than to beholde in his owne house every thyng that with in all the worlde is contained."¹ Machiavelli thinks the prince should be active in sports and possess geographical knowledge, "ought to inure himself to sports, and by hunting and hawking, and such like recreation, accustom his body to hardship, and hunger, and thirst, and at the same time inform himself of the coasts and situation of the country, the bigness and elevation of the mountains, the extent of plains etcera....purpose--to know country and to provide better for its defence."² Chesterfield constantly re-iterates in the first forty or forty-five letters, the practical value of geography and history. Throughout the correspondence, he urges geographical and historical knowledge, for it will equip a statesman with most useful knowledge. "Remember, too, that great modern knowledge is still more necessary than ancient; and that you had better know perfectly the present, than the old state of Europe; though I would have you well acquainted with both."³

The reading of ancient classics for pleasure and profit was repeatedly stressed in The Boke Named the Gouvernour and to a less

1. The Boke Named the Gouvernour, p 45.

2. The Prince, p 94.

3. Chesterfield's Letters to His Son, p 145, Letter CXLII.